



IALA GUIDELINE

G1087 PROCEDURES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE IALA DOMAIN UNDER THE IHO GI REGISTRY

Edition 4.0

October 2025

urn:mrn:iala:pub:g1087:ed4.0



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International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation

DOCUMENT REVISION

Revisions to this document are to be noted in the table prior to the issue of a revised document.

Date	Details	Approval
December 2012	First issue	Council 54
December 2013	Edition 2.0 As a result of suggested changes from the workshop on producing an IALA S-100 Product Specification, June 2013.	Council 56
June 2017	Edition 3.0 Changes in Chapters 1, 4 and 6 to reflect developments in terminology and approach. Amended procedures for submission of product specifications. Remove duplication with Guideline 1106 Whole document	Council 64
July 2022	Edition 3.1 Editorial corrections.	Council 75
December 2025	Edition 4.0 Changes to the document as a whole to be aligned with the new release of G1106 and IHO S-99.	Council 03

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1. INTRODUCTION

The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Geospatial Information (GI) Registry provides the framework for registering, maintaining and disseminating items of geographic information that support the S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model. The IHO Standard S-99, Edition 2.0.0 (2022), defines the operational procedures for the organization and management of the GI Registry. IALA, as an IHO Submitting Organisation and Domain Owner, manages its own domain within the GI Registry in accordance with these procedures.

This Guideline establishes the procedures and responsibilities for the management of the IALA Domain within the IHO GI Registry. It tailors the general provisions of IHO S-99 to align IALA's organizational structure, committees, and operational practices.

2. BACKGROUND

In 2010, the IHO adopted S-100, a framework geospatial standard aligned with the ISO 19100 series. The GI Registry, maintained under S-99, supports the registration of features, attributes, and catalogues used by organizations developing S-100 compliant product specifications. IALA participates as a Submitting Organisation and maintains the S-200 Domain, which supports Marine Aids to Navigation, including VTS, and related applications.

IALA's participation ensures that data definitions and product specifications developed by IALA and its members remain interoperable with other S-100-based domains managed under the IHO framework.

3. SCOPE

This Guideline applies to all activities associated with the registration, maintenance, and withdrawal of items in the IALA Domain of the IHO Geospatial Information Registry. It provides the authoritative process for managing feature concepts, portrayal, metadata, and product specifications registered under the S-200 series. The procedures described here should be applied by all IALA organs involved in the management of the IALA domain.

4. THE IALA DOMAIN IN THE GI REGISTRY

The IALA Domain is a logical subdivision of the IHO GI Registry and includes a set of registers relevant to IALA's areas of activity. These currently include registers for Concepts, Feature Catalogues, Portrayal, Metadata, and Product Specifications. Each register supports the development of IALA S-200 series product specifications in accordance with IHO S-100 Part 11 and IHO S-97.

IALA acts as the Domain Owner, responsible for the governance, review, and approval of content within its domain. The IHO retains ownership of the overall Registry and its infrastructure.

5. MANAGEMENT OF THE IALA DOMAIN

5.1. THE IHO REGISTRY – IALA AND DOMAIN MANAGEMENT RELATIONSHIP

The management process for the IALA Domain follows the life-cycle defined in IHO S-99. It includes the submission, validation, review, approval, registration, maintenance, and withdrawal of register items. All submissions must use the formats and metadata requirements defined by the IHO GI Registry.

The purpose of this section is to provide information regarding the interaction between the IALA Domain, IHO, and the GI Registry. It will also describe the roles, responsibilities and procedures for IALA as a Submitting Organization and Domain Control Body to the IHO Registry, as described by the governing documentation of IHO Standards S-100 and S-99.

IALA has developed these procedures solely to manage the IALA domain and its role as a Submitting Organization. Should any conflict arise between this Guideline and IHO standard S-100 or S-99, IALA should defer to the IHO documentation.

5.1.1. MANAGEMENT OF THE IALA DOMAIN

The overall management responsibility of IALA for its domain in the IHO Registry is distributed over two types of managerial roles:

- 1 IALA Domain Management, which resides within the IALA-Secretariat
- 2 IALA Product Specification Task Lead, who maybe co-opted/appointed to the work from appropriate companies or organizations

As a Domain Owner, IALA will require interaction within the IHO's Domain Control Body and adherence to the timelines of the IHO's Registry management processes.

5.1.1.1. IALA Domain Management

The IALA Domain Management resides within the IALA Secretariat and coordinates the activities of each of the Task Leads and acts as the single point of contact with the IHO.

5.1.1.2. IALA Product Specification Task Lead

A Task Group of a committee is appointed to develop and manage each Product Specification. The Product Specification Task Group Lead coordinates the development process, ensures the appropriate use of existing entries in the GI Registry, and oversees the creation of any new entries required by that IALA Product Specification.

It will not necessarily meet during Committee sessions and may not meet physically, if it is possible to carry out the work by e-mail and/or teleconference. An Product Specification Task Group is able to draw on any Register in the IHO Registry.

5.1.1.3. IHO registry manager

The IHO Registry Manager holds a pivotal role in overseeing the IHO Geospatial Information (GI) Registry, which supports the S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model and operates in accordance with IHO Publication S-99.

5.2. PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING A PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

When a product specification is deemed ready to get an operational status, it is submitted to the IALA council by the responsible IALA committee. After approval by the IALA Council, the product specification is submitted to the IHO registry manager by the IALA Domains manager.

5.3. PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSALS TO CONCEPT, DATA DICTIONARY, PORTRAYAL AND METADATA REGISTERS

In the development process of a Product Specification, it can be necessary to register new concepts or amend existing concepts. Also, the registration of items in the Data Dictionary, Portrayal and Metadata can be relevant. When approved by the responsible committee, the Domains manager submits the items to be registered through the procedures as set out in IHO Publication S-99.

6. DEFINITIONS

Definitions and acronyms used in this Guideline should be in accordance with IHO S-100 and S-99 where appropriate.

Otherwise, the definitions of terms used in this Guideline can be found in the *International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation* (IALA Dictionary) and were checked as correct at the time of going to print. Where a conflict arises, the IALA Dictionary should be considered as the authoritative source of definitions used in IALA documents.

7. ABBREVIATIONS

IHO	International Hydrographic Organization
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
S-99	Operational procedures for the organization and management of the S-100 Geospatial Information Registry, October 2022 (IHO)
S-100	Universal Hydrographic Data Model

8. REFERENCES

- [1] IHO. (2022) S-99 Operational procedures for the organization and management of the S-100 Geospatial Information Registry, Ed 2.0.0 October2022.
- [2] IHO. (2025) S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model version 5.2.0, August 2025.
- [3] IALA. Guideline G1106 Producing an IALA S-200 Series Product Specification.